

Common Missile



MISSION

Provide a common missile to meet the infantry, aviation, and armor requirements of the next generation missile system.

DESCRIPTION AND SPECIFICATIONS

Expanding regional threats coupled with the expiration of the current stockpile require action to maintain the effectiveness of both Army ground and air combat units. A single missile to accomplish both ground and air missions provides flexibility during combat operations and enables the best use of limited development funds. The Common Missile will provide Bradley-equipped forces, the Apache Attack Helicopter (AH-64), the Comanche Reconnaissance Helicopter (RAH-66) and Future Combat System with an enhanced fire-and-forget capability, greatly increasing weapon system effectiveness and soldier and aircraft survivability.

The Common Missile will effectively engage and destroy a variety of targets, ranging from buildings/bunkers to advanced armor on the digital battlefield well into the future. The Common Missile will be designed and tested to achieve the following:

- Enhanced fire-and-forget capability.
- Increased range.
- Increased survivability (both missile and platform).
- Decreased weight.
- Decreased size.
- Modularity for future technology-based enhancements.

The Common Missile will be compatible with existing ground and air launch platforms as well as the Army's Future Combat System and the RAH-66.

Diameter: 6 in

Weight: ~70 lb

Length: ~50 in

FOREIGN COUNTERPART

No known foreign counterpart

FOREIGN MILITARY SALES

None

PROGRAM STATUS

- **FY99** Selected value tri-mode seeker concept based on tradeoff studies.
- **FY00** Identified alternative seeker that offers highest payoff; Investigated controllable thrust propulsion designs.
- **FY01** Initiated common missile preliminary design and risk reduction efforts.

PROJECTED ACTIVITIES

- **FY01–03** Tri-Mode seeker development; Controllable propulsion development; Warhead development; System design and integration.
- **FY04** Milestones I/II.
- **FY04–07** Integration testing.
- **FY08–10** Low rate initial production.
- **FY08–17** Technology insertion.

PRIME CONTRACTORS

To be determined

